



Saving Our Scrub

A newsletter dedicated to sharing information about the Florida scrub ecosystem



Volume 1, Number 2 November 2000

Scrublink is Ready to Assist You!

Dawn Zattau, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Scrublink, the Service's new listserver is up and running! Just what is Scrublink? Once you have subscribed, you may post a email message to Scrublink, and it will automatically be sent to all the others who have subscribed. Your message will hopefully generate a discussion or yield a response to a question you've been trying to get an answer to for the last century. It's a great way to communicate with a lot of folks without expending a lot of effort. Scrublink is waiting to receive and distribute messages and questions to all who are interested in the scrub ecosystem. This tool will provide:

a a place for you to get help with a problem you are facing related to scrub management, species monitoring, etc.;

a a forum to discuss upcoming meetings, conference calls, and events related to scrub;

a a place to discuss what's working (or not) regarding our attempts to manage and rehabilitate scrub habitat;

a a place to discuss how new technology/budgets/policies will affect scrub habitat; and

whatever else seems relevant to a broad audience of folks interested in scrub habitat.

To date, there hasn't been a whole lot of activity on Scrublink, although I know there's a need for information sharing based on the number of people who have

already signed up. Translation: don't be shy about subscribing and posting messages! There's no such thing as a stupid question when it comes to saving one of the most endangered ecosystems in the world. The folks who have the answer you are looking for will be happy to share it with you.

To subscribe, send an email to: this address: listserv@www.fws.gov with "subscribe fws-scrublink [Your Name]" in the **body** of the message (minus the apostrophes and brackets). For example, my message block read:

subscribe fws-scrublink Dawn Zattau

You should receive an affirmative response from the server nearly instantly. If you are unsuccessful at subscribing on your own, send me an email, and we'll get you signed up from this end. Once you have subscribed, to post a message to ALL subscribers or to respond to a message so that all subscribers can see the response, send an email to fws-scrublink@www.fws.gov. If you are responding to a message which you think is meant to be seen only by the author, respond directly to the author. Isn't that easy?

This important tool is in place and raring to go. Let's get some conversation started out there! See you on Scrublink...

*Dawn can be reached at:
dawn_zattau@fws.gov*



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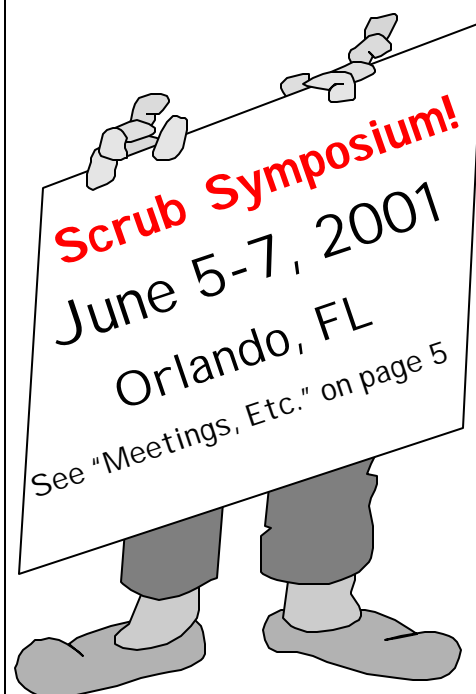
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Mark your calendars and start thinking about what you would like to contribute to the symposium. This will be the best opportunity we will have to share our knowledge among our peers. The call for papers has come; see page 2 for details.

Florida Scrub Symposium 2001

Call For Papers

Florida Scrub Symposium 2001 will take place at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in Orlando, Florida, from June 5-7, 2001. The Symposium will feature talks on various facets of scrub conservation and management with a separate workshop focusing on scrub management issues. The meeting is sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

MEETING PLANS

Check-in and late registration will begin at the hotel on the afternoon of Monday, June 4, for those arriving the day before the papers begin. The contributed papers will begin on the morning of Tuesday, June 5 and will

continue through the afternoon of Wednesday, June 6. The workshop for scrub management will be held on Thursday morning.

Please submit the attached registration form to Dawn Zattau at the location listed at the bottom right of this page.

PAPERS The Florida Scrub Symposium 2001 will consist of single sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday. Concurrent sessions will be avoided. Single sessions will be scheduled in 20 minute blocks; the talk itself will be limited to 15 minutes in length, with an additional 3 minutes allowed for questions. Deadline for Abstract submission is **March 31, 2001**. Send the required information (per attached abstract submission forms) to Dawn Zattau, at the address above. In the event more presentations are received than we have time slots available for presentation, the program committee will determine which papers would be better suited for posters. The primary author will be contacted in the event his/her presentation is selected for the poster format. A poster session will be held only if an excess of papers is received.

ACCOMMODATIONS After a full day of business, the Radisson Plaza Hotel provides a wide array of ways to relax. Enjoy a game of tennis on one of their two courts, take a dip in the outdoor pool, or unwind in the jacuzzi. A health club, complete with Nautilus equipment and sauna is also at your disposal. For the walking or jogging enthusiast, the

jogging trail is located on the shores of Lake Ivanhoe. Dining is available onsite at "Lando Sam's", and there is a lounge which provides a place to meet old friends or make new ones. Within walking distance of the hotel are additional dining options: Bryan's Family Style Restaurant, Gargi's Italian Restaurant, Art's Café, White Wolf, and Tiramisu Café. In addition, seven

restaurants are located 5 to 7 minutes of the hotel (by car), all within walking distance of each other.

A block of rooms has been booked at the meeting site (Radisson Plaza Hotel), located on 60 South Ivanhoe Boulevard in Orlando, Florida. Singles and

doubles will be available at the special rate of \$77.00 per night. This rate is subject to both state and local taxes (currently totaling 11%), and will be in effect three days prior and three days after the date of arrival. The block of rooms will be held until **May 14, 2001**, at which time the hotel will release the unused portion of the group room block. Reservations received after that date will be confirmed only if there is availability at the prevailing published room rate.

All individuals will be responsible for his/her own room, tax and incidental charges. Method of payment for these charges will be established upon check-in. You should

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Need Help Burning Overgrown Scrub?

Florida Scrub-jay Fire Strike Team prepares for second fire season

Mary Huffman, The Nature Conservancy

The Florida Scrub-jay Fire Strike Team is a five year project to reduce the backlog of difficult fuels in overgrown scrubs of Polk, Highlands and Brevard Counties. The team is a roving fire crew that serves as a supplemental resource for fire managers who need help to burn difficult scrub units. The team will be working from December through April this year.

Land managers of public and private conservation lands in the three counties may fill out a simple application form to have an area considered for fire team assistance. Applications are evaluated by an inter-agency steering committee including scrub-jay experts and fire managers.

The project was conceived by members of the Lake Wales Ridge Ecosystem Working Group. It is coordinated by The Nature Conservancy's Lake Wales Ridge office. To date, the project has been funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Exposition Foundation, Disney Conservation Awards Program, Florida Department of Transportation, and the Brevard County EEL Program.

For an application form or more information, contact coordinator Mary Huffman at mhuffman@ithink.net or call her at The Nature Conservancy, 863-678-1551.

Saving Our Scrub is published regularly to provide a forum for sharing information about the imperiled Florida scrub ecosystem. The newsletter is distributed free to anyone interested in obtaining a copy. Comments, suggestions, and article submissions should be directed to the editor. The editor and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service assume no responsibility for information contained herein, or for injury or damage resulting from use of such information. Information herein will be used at the reader's own discretion and risk. Views and opinions expressed herein are those of the author or source of material and do not necessarily reflect the opinions, views, or endorsements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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E-mail: dawn_zattau@fws.gov

Deadline for next issue:
January 15, 2001

Website:
<http://northflorida.fws.gov>

Grant Opportunities

PARTNERS FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE (PFW) Administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, PFW works in voluntary partnership with private (non-federal) landowners to restore wetlands, stream and river corridors, prairie, grasslands, and other important fish and wildlife habitats for Federal trust species (migratory birds, threatened and endangered species, anadromous fish, and some marine mammals). The program provides advice on the design and location of potential restoration projects as well as financial assistance to implement the projects. Program staff also provide technical assistance to the U.S. Department of Agriculture on its conservation programs. See <http://partners.fws.gov>

CHALLENGE COST SHARE (CCS) Administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, CCS projects include habitat improvement or wetland restoration and may include research, environmental education or wildlife management components. At least 30 percent of funds awarded go to wildlife-oriented recreation on refuges. For more information on the above grants, contact Jay Herrington (6620 Southpoint Drive S., Ste. 310, Jacksonville, FL 32216, (904) 232-2580, extension 120, Jay_Herrington@fws.gov) or Paula Halupa (3860 Tollgate Blvd., Suite 300, Naples, FL 34114, (941) 353-8442, extension 32, Paula_Halupa@fws.gov).

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM (EQIP) Established to provide a single voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers to address significant natural resource needs and objectives. Incentive payments are made to enable a producer to perform land management practices that would not otherwise be initiated without financial assistance. See <http://www.nhq.nrcs.usda.gov/OPA/FB96OPA/eqipfact.html> or contact NRCS, FSA, Cooperative Extension Service, or your local conservation district.

WILDLIFE HABITAT INCENTIVES PROGRAM (WHIP) Designed to help landowners and those who are in control of acreage to develop and preserve important wildlife habitat for future generations. The program offers technical assistance and cost-sharing opportunities for developing a wildlife habitat development plan for managing the land in accordance with the plan. See <http://wl.fb-net.org/whip> or

contact your local NRCS office, FSA, the Cooperative Extension Service, or your local conservation district.

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT (RC&D) Provides technical assistance to local communities to improve their economies, natural resources, and living standards by coordinating conservation and rural development assistance available from USDA and other federal, state, and local sources. The RC&D Council identifies the environ-



mental, economic, and social needs of their area and sets project priorities, objectives, goals, and resources needed in an area plan. Most RC&D Councils are nonprofit organizations and have broad authority to seek help from sources that are best qualified to provide needed assistance. See http://www.ncg.nrcs.usda.gov/rcnd_2.html or contact your local NRCS office.

WILDLIFE LINKS A cooperative program with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) that funds innovative research, management, and education projects that will help golf courses become an important part of the conservation landscape. The overall goal of the program is to protect and enhance, through proper planning and management, the wildlife, fish, and plant resources found on golf courses. This aim includes providing golf course designers and superintendents with information they need to promote the wildlife on their golf facilities, while still providing quality playing conditions for the game of golf. See <http://www.nfwf.org/nfwfusga.htm> or contact Katie Distler, Southeastern Partnership Office, NFWF, 1875 Century Blvd., Suite 200, Atlanta, GA, (404) 679-7120, istler@nfwf.org.

PATHWAYS TO NATURE CONSERVATION FUND This program offers grants to enhance environmental education activities and bird and wildlife viewing opportunities at significant nature tourism destinations in the

United States and Canada. Projects of interest include, but are not limited to, boardwalks, viewing platforms and blinds, educational displays, and interactive exhibits. See <http://wbu.com/pathways> or http://www.nfwf.org/nfwf_pathwaystonature.htm or contact Peter Stangel with NFWF at (404) 679-7099, stangel@nfwf.org.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION CHALLENGE GRANT PROGRAM This program funds on-the-ground efforts to recover sensitive fish, plant, and wildlife species, restore riverine, wetland, riparian, and upland habitats, improve water quality, control noxious weeds, and conserve endangered fish. Partnerships among federal agencies, tribes, local governments, non-profit organizations, and individual landowners are encouraged. See http://www.livablecommunities.gov/toolsandresources/wr_restoration.htm. Contact Gerry Clark, NFWF, (202) 857-0166 or Shannon Cunniff, Bureau of Reclamation (202) 208-5007.

FLORIDA PLANT CONSERVATION PROGRAM This program began in 1992 to work toward the recovery of federally listed endangered and threatened plant species in Florida. The goal of the Florida Plant Conservation Program is to restore and maintain existing populations of listed plants on public land and on private lands managed for conservation purposes. Previous or ongoing projects address demography, monitoring, reintroduction, germination, pollination, and other aspects of population ecology. See <http://www.fl-dof.com/Fm/statelands/ecology/plantconserve/index.html>. Contact Dr. Dennis Hardin at hardind@doacs.state.fl.us or Penny Isom at isomp@doacs.state.fl.us.

TURNER FOUNDATION FORESTS & HABITATS GRANTS This program supports ecosystem-wide habitat protection with particular emphasis on locally developed strategies for private and public lands. Turner Foundation supports efforts which defend wild places from destructive practices and supports efforts that create understanding of the relationship between wildlife, habitat protection, and long-term economic stability. The Foundation does not support funding for buildings, land acquisition, endowments, or start-up funds. Additionally, the Foundation does not fund films, books, magazines, or other specific

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Grant Opportunities...

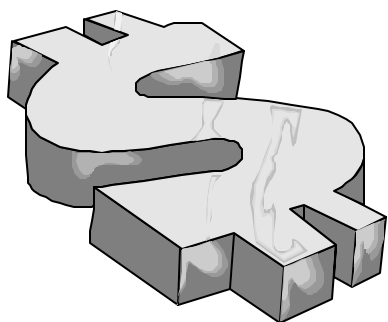
(Continued from page 3)

media projects. In addition, the Foundation does not provide support to individuals. See www.turnerfoundation.org or contact Peter Bahouth, Executive Director, Turner Foundation, One CNN Center, Suite 1090, South Tower, Atlanta, GA 30303, ATTN: Program Department.

ROCKEFELLER FAMILY FUND Family Fund's Environment program emphasizes conservation of natural resources, protection of health as affected by the environment, the cessation and cleanup of pollution caused by the Department of Energy and the Department of Defense, and domestic efforts to broaden the definition of national security and global stability to include environmental security. Examples of past grants which fit these guidelines include support for a coalition of grassroots groups working to preserve the ancient forests of the Pacific Northwest; community organizing to reduce and recycle instead of burning solid waste; and advocacy to curb pollution at the nation's military facilities. See <http://www.rffund.org>.

JESSIE SMITH NOYES FOUNDATION This foundation promotes communities that are environmentally sound, economically vital and socially just. It provides support to individuals and organizations in locally implementing initiatives, technologies or systems that respect the inter-connectedness of human and natural communities and to strengthen local economies built upon inclusive and democratic decision making. See <http://www.noyes.org/sc.html>.

PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS The Environment program aims to promote policies and practices that protect the global atmosphere and preserve healthy forest and marine ecosystems. See <http://www.pewtrusts.com/programs/env/envindex.cfm>.



Scrub Symposium...

(Continued from page 2)

make your own room reservations by calling the Radisson Central Reservations office at 1-800-333-3333 or the Radisson Plaza Reservations Office at 407-425-4455 and requesting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service rate. Accommodation requests must be guaranteed to an approved credit card or be accompanied by a check equaling the first night's deposit. Reservations may be cancelled without penalty up to forty-eight hours prior to arrival. Enclosed parking is available for your convenience; self-parking is complimentary, and a charge of \$5.75 per car applies for valet usage.

TRANSPORTATION The Radisson Plaza Hotel Orlando is conveniently located off I-4, approximately 20 minutes from Orlando International Airport, and transportation is available to and from the hotel on a 24-hour basis through Mears Shuttle Service. Mears maintains a reservation desk at the baggage pick-up area at the airport for guests, and advance reservations are not necessary. The cost is \$12.00 per person one way and \$21.00 round trip. For those of you who are driving, take exit 42 off I-4. The Radisson is located on the east side of I-4 and is clearly visible from the interstate. The address is 60 South Ivanhoe Boulevard.

Complimentary shuttle transportation is provided within a 5-mile radius of the hotel (which includes Church Street Station,

Downtown Orlando, and the Fashion Square Mall).

PAPER SUBMISSION Follow the instructions to submit any paper you may want to present. Please send each submission separately. **The deadline for submission of abstracts is March 31, 2001.** A maximum of two papers per author will be accepted.

The extended abstracts for oral and/or poster presentations (see discussion in the Call for Papers) will be treated equally in the Symposium Proceedings. **For inclusion in the proceedings, your extended abstract (maximum of 4 pages) must be submitted via e-mail attachment to Dawn Zattau (dawn_zattau@fws.gov) no later than one week from the close of the workshop.** Any papers received after that date will not be included in the proceedings. Please submit the attachments in WordPerfect for Windows or Word for Windows format, using Times New Roman font. The proceedings will be an important resource not only for those who attend the symposium, but also for other researchers and land managers who are interested in the scrub ecosystem. For that reason, it is expected that if you present a paper you will follow through and provide an extended abstract for publication in the proceedings.

(Continued on page 6)

Abstract Example

1. U.R. Anyone
2. anyone@internetservice.net
3. CONSERVING SCRUB HABITAT THROUGH MECHANICAL AND FIRE MANAGEMENT
4. U.R. Anyone
John Doe
Jane Doe
5. Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL 32399, 352-555-3675
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Tallahassee, FL 32301, 352-555-8964
U.S. Forest Service, Tallahassee, FL 32301, 352-555-3978
6. Commercial and residential development has reduced scrub habitat to a fraction of its historical occurrence since pre-European settlement. Fire suppression has further jeopardized the health of this ecosystem. Scrub habitat is dependent on fire, either natural or prescribed, to maintain its natural biodiversity. A site was monitored for biodiversity over a 10-year-period, with baseline being sand pine canopy. The site was restored through mechanical removal of timber and various fire regimes. Species presence increased 10-fold on the site in response to management activity.

The Use of Habitat Conservation Plans to Protect Scrub Species

Miles Meyer (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Jacksonville; miles_meyer@fws.gov)

In 1982, Congress amended Section 10 of the Endangered Species Act to allow for the creation of Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) designed to protect federally listed endangered, threatened, and/or candidate species. The approval of an HCP and subsequent issuance of an incidental take permit (ITP) allows the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to allow "taking" of endangered or threatened species incidental to otherwise lawful activities, when the taking is minimized and mitigated by conservation measures to the maximum extent practicable. Activities such as single-family and multi-family residential development, commercial development, land clearing, roadway construction, and other land management projects may require an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) and HCP to be approved prior to commencement of the activity if a federally listed species is onsite or affected.

Florida scrub is one of the most endangered communities in the United States. The decline in scrub habitat has been due to development, agriculture, silviculture and lack of proper management. It is estimated that the statewide population of scrub-jays has declined by more than 50% over the last 100 years. The purpose of

issuing an ITP is to allow for development while improving the status of scrub-jays and other scrub species throughout their range. Many of the areas in which ITPs are issued are in marginal scrub habitat located in urban settings. These areas provide less suitable habitat for the species and may even be so isolated from adjacent territories that genetic mixing and recruitment are no longer possible. The goal of the HCP is to protect areas large enough to support viable populations and to provide a means of long term management of these areas while still allowing development of lands by landowners. Through the cooperation of local governments, large mitigation areas have been acquired and additional lands are being sought to be managed as mitigation for the impacts authorized by the ITP process. Lands managed by Volusia County such as the Lyonia Preserve, Brevard County's EELs program and other counties have been set aside and managed for projects which may result in incidental take through the Section 10 permitting process.

The table below illustrates the mitigation that has been received for the ITPs which have been issued to date in Florida scrub habitat.

County	# ITP's issued	Scrub Acres Impacted	Scrub Acres Acquired	Management Funds Collected
Brevard	14	152	316	\$265,130
Volusia	3	30.5	0	\$384,111
Indian River	2	93	330.9	\$6,860
Palm Beach	1	1	0	\$93,465
Charlotte	1	0.5	0	0
Marion	1	122	273.1	0
Highlands	1	20	40	0
TOTAL	23	419	960.0	\$749,566

Meetings, Etc.

FLORIDA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY March 27-29, 2001, Gainesville, FL. Contact Carrie Sekerak (352) 669-3153, csekerak@fs.fed.us).

ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEASTERN BIOLOGISTS April 4-7, 2001, New Orleans, LA. See www1.appstate.edu/dept/biology/asb/index.htm.



FLORIDA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY May 10-13, 2001, Tarpon Springs, FL. See www.fnps.org.

2001 SCRUB SYMPOSIUM June 5-7, 2001, Orlando, FL, Radisson Plaza Hotel. Contact Dawn Zattau (904) 232-2580, ext. 107; dawn_zattau@fws.gov.

SOCIETY FOR CONSERVATION BIOLOGY July 30-August 4, 2001, Hilo, HI. "Ecological Lessons From Islands." See www.hear.org/scb2001.

ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA August 5-9, 2001, Madison, WI. "Keeping All the Parts: Sustaining and Restoring Complex Ecosystems." See esa.sdsc.edu/annual.htm.

MISC. TRAINING in a wide variety of topics, including (but not limited to) conservation biology, permitting, and partnership building is available at U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Conservation Training Center, based in Shepardstown, WV. For additional information see their web site at www.nctc.fws.gov.

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STILL SEEKING ASSISTANCE...

In the last newsletter, I requested input for the scrub web site the Service is willing to provide. I visualize the site as a place to find links to other scrub sites, a scrub bibliography (updated regularly), information about ongoing research, details of scrub management and ecology, and copies of the tables of contents of selected journals. I'm really green at this web stuff, and I need help in developing a site map. If you have any experience, please contact me! Thanks in advance,

Dawn

Scrub Symposium Registration Form

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

For those planning to present a paper, please include this form along with the other information required for abstract submission.

Name of Presenting Author: _____

Title of Presentation: _____

Key Words: _____

Equipment Needed: _____ Slide Projector
 _____ Overhead Projector
 _____ Multimedia Projector
 _____ Other (specify) _____

Poster:

In the event the program committee finds my paper to be better suited for poster format:

_____ I am _____ I am NOT

interested in presenting my work.

_____ I REQUIRE an acceptance letter sent to someone else other than the presenting author. If you choose this option, we will need to know who to send the letter to and for which author. Please provide complete details of name and complete mailing address, including fax number:

IMPORTANT NOTE: There is no charge to register for and attend this workshop. You will be responsible only for costs associated with travel, meals, and lodging.

Scrub Symposium...

(Continued from page 4)

You will need to include the following information as a separate attachment via e-mail (see example at the bottom of page 5).

1. **Name of Presenting Author:**
2. **E-mail of Presenting Author:**
3. **Title of Presentation:** (all caps)
4. **Author(s)** of the presentation in the order you want them to appear in the program, in the format First Name(s), Last Name(s). You can use initials or full middle name.
5. **Author(s)' Affiliation(s)** with address(es) and phone number(s) in the same order as above.
6. **Meeting Abstract:** (250 words maximum)

Guidelines These instructions are applicable to the abstract you will be submitting now, which will be used by the Program Committee in their evaluation. Please note that for the **Symposium Proceedings** you will be able to present an **Extended Abstract** (max four pages) version of your paper(s).



While some of you have graciously stepped forward to offer your assistance with the upcoming symposium, I am still in need of volunteers. If you are interested in chairing a session of papers, participating on the program committee, helping with registration, etc., please contact the editor. I can't do it alone!

Buck Lake Conservation Area Scrub Restoration Project

Status Report

Pete Henn, St. Johns River Water Management District (peter_henn@district.sjrwmd.state.fl.us)



The existing fuel bed was not conducive to carrying a prescribed burn

In July of 2000, the St. Johns River Water Management District (District) formed a partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to restore 578 acres of overgrown scrub habitat. The District



A feller-buncher was used to prep the site in order to discourage the spread of exotic vegetation

has been approved for a matched funds grant through the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program for the use in restoration and/or ecosystems improvement projects. Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands (EEL) and the District maintain a cooperative management agreement to partner in the management and restoration of the scrub ecosystem on the eastern portion of the Buck Lake Conservation Area in north Brevard County. Past restoration endeavors that the District and EEL have partnered include cutting of nine acres of scrub

using a rotary cutter and prescribed burning of those nine acres.

According to the report "Developing Biological Criteria for the Recovery of Florida Scrub-Jay Populations on Public Lands in Brevard County..." published by the Dynamac Corporation, the areas that we propose to restore were in suitable scrub as recently as 1943; however by 1994 these areas have become forested and unsuitable for many scrub inhabitants. In 1998 approximately 90% of 9300 acres of the

Buck Lake Conservation Area burned during the wildfires. Of the approximately 578 acres of scrub, about 50-60 acres were spared by the intense firestorms of '98 because the scrub heights are so tall and lack ground fuels necessary to carry a fire; as a result, these hot fires burned around the overgrown scrub.

The current effort by EEL and the District includes the cutting of 23 acres of 20-40-foot-tall scrub that is considered to have been suitable scrub in 1943, and that did not burn in 1998. The area was composed of 40-50 year-old oaks with less than 9 pine trees per acre. Ground fuels were extremely sparse including mainly oak leaves, with scattered

palmetto clumps. The herb layer was relatively nonexistent in terms of its conduciveness to fire. Scrub jays do not currently inhabit this scrub unit, but there is one adjacent jay territory.

EEL staff completed the contractor bid process with some coordination from District staff and awarded the project to Vista Technologies. This

company specializes in scrub restoration and does most of the scrub restoration work at Canaveral Air Force Station.

Equipment they used was a feller-buncher with a 20-inch hardwood shear. Trees were sheared about 6 inches from the ground and then limbed when on the ground. Trees were partially piled, but fuels were left contiguous on the ground to carry a fire through the whole unit. Tree cutting was started in early September and completed in late September.

We agreed to use this type of equipment as opposed to roller-chopping for two reasons. There are exotics in the vicinity of the project area including Brazilian pepper, cogon grass, and some Chinese tallow. The idea was to minimize soil disturbance in order to hinder exotic plant establishment. The feasibility of roller-chopping was minimal due to the size of the trees.

The next step is to let the downed trees cure and to conduct a prescribed burn this winter. We will follow up with a summer burn in three years and keep this unit at 3-5 year rotation, burning mainly in the summer.



The manually-prepped site awaits a winter burn, to be followed up in three years with a summer burn

Photo by Bob Deacy, Palm Beach County ERM



Oak Toad, Jupiter Ridge Natural Area, Palm Beach County

The editor is seeking unique scrub pictures to place in each newsletter at this location. Your photo could be anything scrub-related (e.g. general habitat shots, shots of flora or fauna, management activity, etc.). Please submit any photos and captions via email to dawn_zattau@fws.gov or mail a print, negative, or slide to Dawn Zattau, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 6620 Southpoint Dr. S., Ste. 310, Jacksonville, FL 32216. I promise to return the original to you as soon as I have scanned the image!



Address Correction Requested

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Dawn Zattau
6620 Southpoint Dr. S., Ste. 310
Jacksonville, FL 32216

